

Grantville Quarries Reference Group

February 28 2025

Meeting Notes

🏠 Location: Grantville Community Hall
📅 Date: February 28 2025
🕒 Time: 10.00 am

Chair: John Mitas Meeting Notes: Zena Benbow

Attendees: John Mitas (Chair), Zena Benbow, Michael Cole (GSG), Garry Cranny (Dandy PreMix), Gunther Benedek, Mark Morse (Heidelberg), Robbie Viglietti (Sand Supplies), Craig Banthorpe (Barro Group) Halina Gwizdzil, David Blum, Allen George, Kevin Brown, Rob Parsons, Anne Westwood (Community Reps); Catherine Waterson Save Westernport Woodlands (SWPW) (Guest)

Apologies: Mayor Rochelle Halstead

	Item
1.	Welcome and Introductions – Chair thanked Garry for organizing the quarry tour.
2.	Attendance and Apologies - Noted Above
3.	Confirmation previous Meeting Notes as a true account.
4.	Environmental Management Reporting Dandy PreMix January fugitive dust levels too high; neighbours offered cleaning service but neighbours stated not required & generally pleased with efforts to mitigate impact via the quarry's proactive controls practiced; deeper sand extraction permitted 23/04/24 so the establishment of a “wet floor and/or dredge pond” in the FMSEP will progressively be established addressing the problematic December to March easterly component winds. Traffic signals work to commence late March and take 3-4 months to complete; significant amount of work & trucks will almost immediately be able to turn right from the Quarry rather than have to go through Grantville. Take & Use Bore no adverse Groundwater quality results; lab tested beyond regulatory compliance.

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GSG

There are no Dust issues at either site. Environmental dust testing at Grantville remains well below allowable limits.

Weed management plans at both Grantville and Almurta are being followed. Contractors visited Almurta during February to conduct extensive weed control.

Barro

No further correspondence from the Shire regarding temporary road closure; Anne added the some local residents went down to enquire about the signs following the abandonment of two vehicles, police investigation revealed both stolen and false plates, worried they were going to be torched, Shire said signs “not urgent”.

Minor slashing in February undertaken to enable better access for monitoring of groundwater bores

Heidelberg

Bass Coast Shire Councilors ignored the recommendations from both DEECA and their own planning department and voted against granting the permit for the road ergo VCAT action forced for its legal right to operate under the planning permit; 54 objections received from the community, many of them not vegetation related. Anne pointed out the road had been engineered to the current 100km/h zone- her enquiries with a Shire representative propose the limit be reduced to 50km/h- doesn't alter the VCAT action.

Sand Supplies

Dust across all sites: Visual dust monitoring procedures in place where technological monitors aren't functional, water-cannons, water-cart and sprinklers engaged to mitigate.

Monitoring of grass tree translocation continues with over a 90% success rate; more observations to be assessed ahead of next translocation campaign.

Bushfire at The Gurdies site found to have been started by a chainsaw spark, CFA quick to respond.

5. **Website**

Getting traffic; move to advertise the site at the Transaction Centre approved.

Kevin asked the Environmental Reports consider being included on an annual basis, or at least a

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	summarized version... appropriate enquires will need to be approved by the multi-companies TBA
6.	Other business 1. Animal Shelter in Korrumburra introduced as a possible support recipient by Halina. When asked whether she had a proposal for a specific project at the shelter, she could provide none at the time. Halina to action a specific proposal at the shelter to present for the Group's consideration. Garry asked Catherine Watson whether Save Westernport had considered opening a shelter- Catherine said hasn't been discussed and that their focus was primarily focus on protection of habitat. 2. Anne presented the origins of Sand Strategy, what is now GQRG (formerly ERC) as Grantville Action Group, established 1994 (quarries have been in the area from 1921 onward). Following a submission by GAG to the Minister for Planning a sand extraction strategy plan was prepared by a working group under the auspices of the Minister for Planning. Permanent members of the group were; AGC Woodward Clyde (Ministerial appointed consultants to oversee the process) Chair appointed by the Department of Planning Bass, Cardinia and South Gippsland Shires Sand Producers Association Representatives of extractive industry South Gippsland Conservation Society GAG representing the broader community Various experts contracted by the Minister from time to time as deemed necessary Access to appropriate departments as necessary The Strategy's stated purpose is to “enable appropriate areas of the sand resources to be extracted in a manner which protects significant environmental, economic and social values of the area.” After years of surveys, negotiations, meetings and research the “Regional Sand Extraction Strategy Lang Lang to Grantville” was gazette in the Victorian Parliament, endorsed by multiple Ministers. A Ministerial Directive was issued by the Minister for Planning that it be incorporated into the relevant Planning Scheme. Catherine Watson commented Barry Strong (DEECA) had reported to her that the Sand



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	Strategy is a referral document under the Sate Section of the Planning Scheme. The WA should reflect the permit conditions. Kevin said the community might benefit from the Sand Strategy simplified ergo providing a vision for the next 50 years. 3. Group approved funding for internet access for Grantville Hall. Zena to action with committee.
7.	Next Meeting 10am Friday May 23 2025

